

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0004] beginning on page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

[0004] OFDM is employed in several broadband applications including, for example, Digital Subscriber Line (xDSL) applications as well as the emerging wireless Ethernet standard IEEE 802.11a (IEEE Standard No: 802.11A-1999, ISBN:0-7381-1810-9) [[(FINISH FULL STANDARD CITE)]], incorporated herein for all purposes. Digital signals transmitted according to the 802.11a standard undergo convolutional coding, interleaving and distribution among the sub-channels. The redundancy and decorrelation of errors provided by the coding, interleaving and distribution effectively provides a signal that is robust against frequency-selective fading as it propagates through the channel. If, as can often be the case, certain of the sub-carriers are impaired by frequency selective fading, it is hoped that enough of the sub-carriers remain unimpaired such that most of the original signal is recovered at the receiver.

Please replace paragraph [0008] beginning on page 4 with the following amended paragraph:

[0008] The present invention is illustrated by way of example, and not by way of limitation, in the figures of the accompanying drawings in which like reference numerals refer to similar elements and in which:

Fig. 1 is a block diagram of an example wireless communication system;

Fig. 2 [is a spectral illustration of multi-carrier broadband channels suitable for use in accordance with the teachings of the present invention] is a block diagram of an example transceiver including an innovative sub-carrier diversity agent, according to one example embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 3 [is a block diagram of an example transceiver including an innovative sub-carrier diversity agent,] is a block diagram of an example transceiver subsystem having an example sub-carrier diversity agent, according to one example embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 4 [is a block diagram of the sub-carrier diversity agent] illustrates an example data structure for maintaining intra-channel spatial signature information, according to one example implementation of the present invention;

Fig. 5 is flow chart of an example method of introducing intra-channel spatial diversity, in accordance with the teachings of the present invention; and

Fig. 6 is a block diagram of an example storage medium comprising a plurality of executable instructions which, when executed, cause an accessing machine to implement one or more aspects of the innovative communication agent of the present invention, in accordance with an alternate embodiment of the present invention.

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